

ITEM NO: _____

PREPARED BY: _____

APPROVED BY: Christy L. Kinard
Assistant County Attorney

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE, REQUESTING THE MEMBERS OF THE TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE SHELBY COUNTY DELEGATION TO SUPPORT SB1404/HB1167 OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION ENACTING A BEVERAGE CONTAINER DEPOSIT SYSTEM IN TENNESSEE. SPONSORED BY COMMISSIONER STEVE MULROY.

WHEREAS, Tennessee and Shelby County have a chronic litter problem that is detrimental to civic pride, tourism, farming, recreation, economic growth and numerous other public and private interests; and

WHEREAS, A number of states have eliminated most beverage-container litter, and reduced litter from other sources, by placing a refundable deposit on beverage containers; and

WHEREAS, Tennesseans consume 4.5 billion beverages a year but recycle only 10 percent of the empty containers, disposing of the rest in landfills or on roadsides; and

WHEREAS, A beverage-container deposit will substantially increase the recycling of Tennessee's beverage containers; encourage recycling of other commodities; reduce landfill and other solid-waste expenditures; and help achieve the 25-percent municipal solid waste diversion goal mandated in the Tennessee Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act of 1991; and

WHEREAS, The beverage-container deposit legislation being considered by the 106th Tennessee General Assembly (SB1404/HB1167) establishes a system of independent, voluntary redemption centers funded by scrap value and unclaimed deposits; and

WHEREAS, This legislation provides for the uninterrupted and undiminished funding of the county litter grants program; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of manufacturers and processors, including several in Tennessee, are calling for beverage-container deposits in order to meet their recycling and sustainability goals; and

WHEREAS, numerous public-opinion surveys, including one by the Social Science Research Institute at the University of Tennessee, show that a solid majority of Tennesseans supports a 5-cent deposit on beverage containers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE, that the Shelby County Commission supports, and encourages the Tennessee General Assembly to enact, SB1404/HB1167 or similar beverage-container deposit legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Shelby County Commission requests that all legislators representing Shelby County support SB1404/HB1167 or similar beverage-container deposit legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect in accordance with § 2.06(B) of the Shelby County Charter, the public welfare requiring it.

A C Wharton, Jr., County Mayor

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Clerk of County Commission

ADOPTED: _____